



NOW THAT'S SWEET!

Students down chocolate to aid—or assuage the bite of—Valentine's romanticism.

■ News, Page 3



SLEEK, SLIM, SIGHTLY

Motorola's new 'Rizr' released internationally, set for a spring domestic release, anticipated to replace the popular Razr

■ Technology, Page 6

Close, but not enough

Skyhawks narrowly lose to Tenn. Tech, before winning "bracket-buster"

■ Sports, Page 7

UTMPACER.COM

THE PACER

U.S. Geological Survey hosts local earthquake talk
Government scientist discusses dangers of nearby New Madrid fault

Heather Roland

West Tennessee residents have always been concerned about severe weather, especially tornadoes. However, another natural disaster could easily occur here—earthquakes.

Martin is fewer than 50 miles from one of the United States' most active fault lines—the New Madrid fault. And while small quakes have occasionally occurred along the New Madrid in the past 200 years, its potential for wreaking havoc on West Tennessee is great.

Dr. Steve Horton, a research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), visited Obion County Tuesday, Feb. 13, to discuss the dangers residents could face in the event of a massive earth-

quake and how to better prepare themselves for such an event.

Horton said the New Madrid fault line is different from other fault lines, such as the San Andreas in California. He said the New Madrid fault line produces earthquakes much less frequently and the quakes that have occurred since the early 1800s typically have caused no substantial damage. Horton added that a quake must register at least a magnitude 2.3 on the Richter scale for it to be felt.

Horton said through scientific evidence, the New Madrid fault also is on a slower timetable than its Western counterparts, with a massive earthquake occurring about every 500 years.

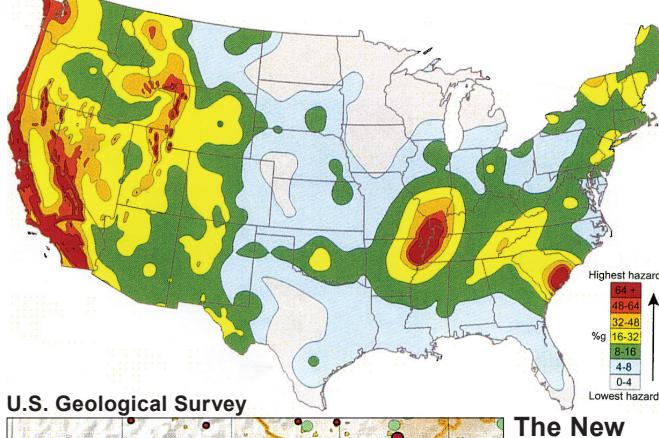
The scientific evidence

consists of a variety of sand blows. When a large earthquake occurs, aged material, including plant remains and American Indian artifacts, erupts from deep inside the earth. Because of these sand blows, scientists have estimated that large earthquakes (magnitude 7 or greater) occurred at least once on the New Madrid between A.D. 800 and 1000, at least once between A.D. 1300 and 1600 and three times in December 1811 through January 1812.

So if the last "big ones" occurred in 1811-1812, you may think you are safe for another 305 years, right?

While this might be the case, Horton said it is extremely important for every individual living near the New Madrid fault line to be prepared

— See 'Quake', Page 4



U.S. Geological Survey
The New Madrid Fault zone has been the site of several large historical earthquakes. Scientists say the area is due for another earthquake

Bredesen revisits teacher licensing rules

Matt Cook

The standard method of obtaining a license to teach high school in Tennessee is fairly straightforward: Go to an accredited, four-year university and complete the coursework, student teaching and pass the PRAXIS exams.

The process becomes confusing when trying to obtain a secondary teaching license by an alternate method. Because of a shortage of teachers across the state, Gov. Phil Bredesen and the Department of Education are doing all they can to simplify the process through two programs aimed at professionals and college graduates: Teach Tennessee and Transition to Teaching.

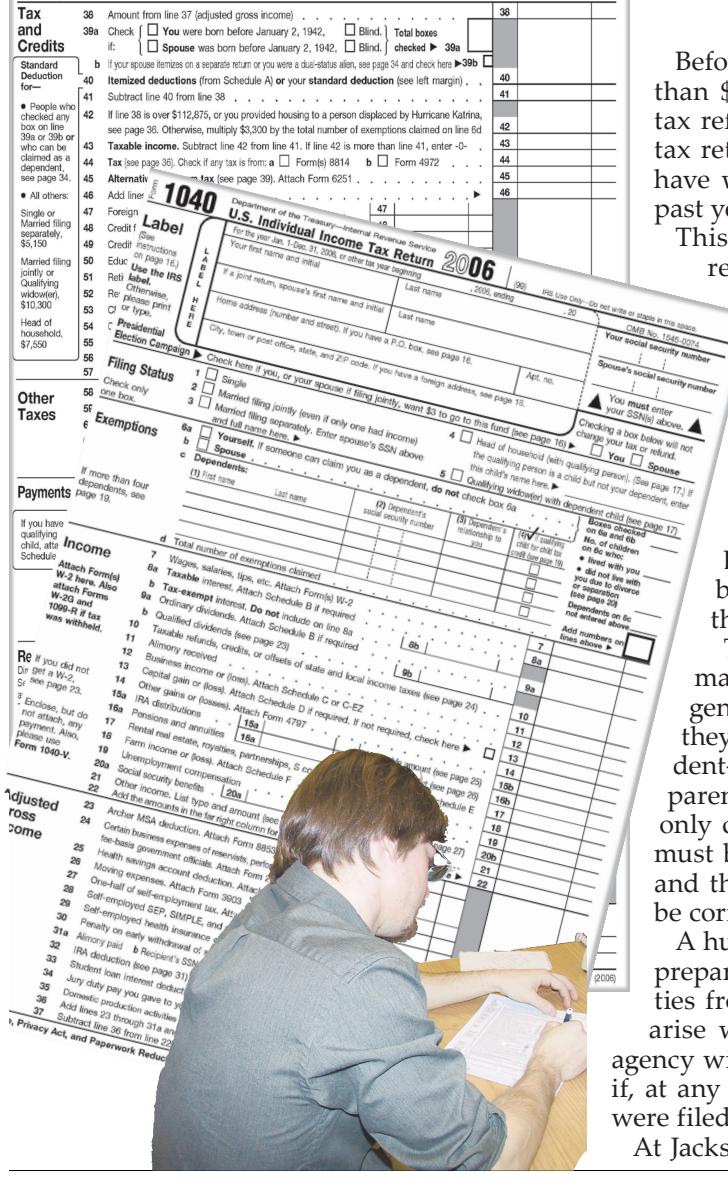
Bredesen launched his "Teach Tennessee Initiative" in 2005 to give professionals and others interested in teaching the opportunity to teach the subject area in which they hold at least a bachelor's degree. People invited into the program—called "fellows"—attend a two-week training institute where they learn pedagogical theory and practice.

Fellows are then assigned a mentor at the school where they begin teaching. This mentor helps the fellow with lesson plans, classroom management skills, offers advice and observes the fellow through their first year. Fellows are sought in the areas of math, science and foreign language primarily, but other fields are accepted depending on the needs of particular school districts.

The second program, Transition to Teaching, is the product of a federal grant written under the Department of Education's Teaching Quality Enhancement program. Because it was written as another direct response to

— See 'Teachers,' Page 3

Beware pitfalls of tax-season stress, prep



Allie T. Thomas

Before getting "a real job" earning more than \$5,150 a year, students can enjoy a tax refund by just by completing income tax returns, which is also the law, if you have worked in the United States in the past year.

This year, the deadline for filing tax returns is April 17, and everyone in this category must either file a W-2 form or have their returns prepared professionally by a certified public accountant (CPA) or another tax-preparing agency such as H&R Block.

By filling out the forms yourself, students will save money in skipping a middle-man tax preparer. But at the same time, students risk being penalized and fined should they make an error.

The most common mistake students make, said Union City's Jackson-Hewitt general manager Julie Bakr, is when they claim themselves as an independent—instead of a dependent—to their parents. Students who are guilty of this only cause more red tape as more forms must be processed to clarify the mistake and the chaos can last up to 10 weeks to be corrected.

A huge advantage in using a CPA or tax preparer is that they will share any liabilities from penalties and interest that may arise with the taxpayer, Bakr said. The agency will always save your records as well if, at any time, students need to prove taxes were filed.

At Jackson-Hewitt in Union City, a student

special to process W-2's is available for only \$39, Bakr said.

If students choose to file taxes themselves, they can download the 1040-EZ from IRS.gov, but even the IRS' website is unsecure, Bakr said. Links on the IRS page will direct users to other websites also and not necessarily those of the IRS.

Secure websites can be detected with an "s" at the end of "http." To find such a site, you may conduct a Google search under the heading "https." Simply add "taxes" on top of that and there will be a list of secure sites to file your taxes online.

To better understand how to file his own taxes, Junior John Collins of Memphis recommends using TurboTax, which is software available for about \$20 from retailers.

"It's so easy you would have to be a complete moron not to understand it," Collins said.

Once you are ready to send your taxes off, you can either mail them in, or do it online. If you mail your tax forms to the IRS, a copy will not be saved, and taxpayers may be held responsible if it is lost in the mail. If they file them online, however, it will be saved to your records.

Filing your taxes online is the best way to do it on your own Bakr says.

Generally if you mail your taxes, filers can expect to wait three-to-four weeks for the refund.

From there, the quickest way to get your refund is by setting up an "IRS direct." Refunds will then be directly deposited into your bank account within a few weeks. Fees will be paid upfront, but they are often discounted at this time of year. Taxpayers need only provide W-2's, a routing number from a check, accounting number and a photo ID to the tax preparer. If claiming any dependents, taxpayers will need to provide their Social Security numbers.

Public Safety warns students on bank-related e-mail 'phishing' fraud

Sara M. McIntosh

After being tipped off by staff members, UTM's Public Safety issued a warning to students to avoid responding to an e-mail appearing to come from Regions Bank.

"Legitimate businesses do not ask for personal or account information because they already have that information on file," said Public Safety's Capt. Ray Coleman.

Regions Bank posted an e-mail fraud warning on its main Web site informing

Technology

their customers that they are not to respond to or provide any information to e-mails sent to them. They stated on their email fraud protection site that any e-mails sent directly from the company will "never request or verify personal account information, never request that you take any action and never ask you to click on a link in any email" they send to e-mail users.

According to the National Consumers League's 2006

Internet Scam Trends report, identity thieves used e-mail 100 percent of the time as the method of contacting victims in these "phishing" scams.

Opportunists use a legitimately appearing, bogus e-mails, complete with company logo. They state a problem with the company records, and that the consumer must fill out a form with all personal information in order to remedy the problem. Essentially, the scam is a "phishing" attempt to lure people into providing the wanted information so a person can

steal their identity, banking information, or both.

These "phishing" scams target customers of banks, investment firms or lending institutions because many people pay their bills, transfer funds or invest online. According to the Anti-Phishing Working Group, financial services were the most-targeted industry by these Web criminals in October 2006, netting nearly 93 percent of "phishing" complaints.

Coleman suggested that students never respond to these e-mails. If after being contacted on numerous

occasions with the same e-mail, he suggests forwarding the e-mail to the appropriate authorities.

According to a report by the Internet Crime Complaint Center, in order to avoid identity theft, a consumer should always delete unsolicited e-mails or suspicious e-mails that may ask for any personal information or banking information.

Safeguarding a person's Social Security number from any online correspondence to unknown or unsecured sites is essential for avoiding any identity theft.

If ever unsure or uneasy, law enforcement officials suggest "following your gut instincts" and protecting yourself because there are many people who would love to get their hands on your money as well as assuming your identity to rack up as much debt as possible.

Regions recommends if a customer has responded to a suspected e-mail to contact them immediately at 1-800-REGIONS. Also, if you receive seemingly fraudulent e-mails, then forward those to phishing@regions.com.

TUESDAY WEATHER

55 °C 34 °F

Tomorrow, sunny with a low of 37. Thursday, sunny with a high of 63 and low of 43.

INSIDE

Viewpoints	2
Editorial	2
News	3
Bulletin Board	4
Police Report	4
Arts & Entertainment	5
Technology	6
Sports	7

HELP IN THE MARROW

4 Mu Epsilon Delta holds bone marrow screening
IT 'MYATT' NOT BE A FLUKE
7 Skyhawk softballers ties school strike-out record with 13

JUST BECAUSE

Number of detectable earthquakes each year: 500,000

Source: US Geological Survey

THE PACER

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Viewpoints

The Pacer • February 20, 2007

Editorial Board

E-mail
On the Web

pacer_opinions@utm.edu
utmpacer.com/lettertotheeditor

Page 2

Our View

Editorial:

Preparedness always essential

Many people like to say that the "big one" will never happen to them. A tornado will never flatten their house or a wildfire will never send their neighborhood up in smoke.

We're reminded every year that we live on the New Madrid fault, but many people don't take the reminders seriously. We think people need to realize that we live in an area that could potentially face a catastrophic earthquake.

A lot of people like to try to predict when the next one will hit and what will happen, but the truth is that no one can ever predict nature.

Awareness and planning are the keys to surviving a natural disaster. On June 20, UTM plans to hold a full-scale drill in case an earthquake should happen.

The drill will show local emergency services what they need to update and what they need to practice should a magnitude 7.7 earthquake hit here.

The Pacer is happy that local authorities are taking active steps to ensure that UTM students and members of the community stay safe. The worst thing

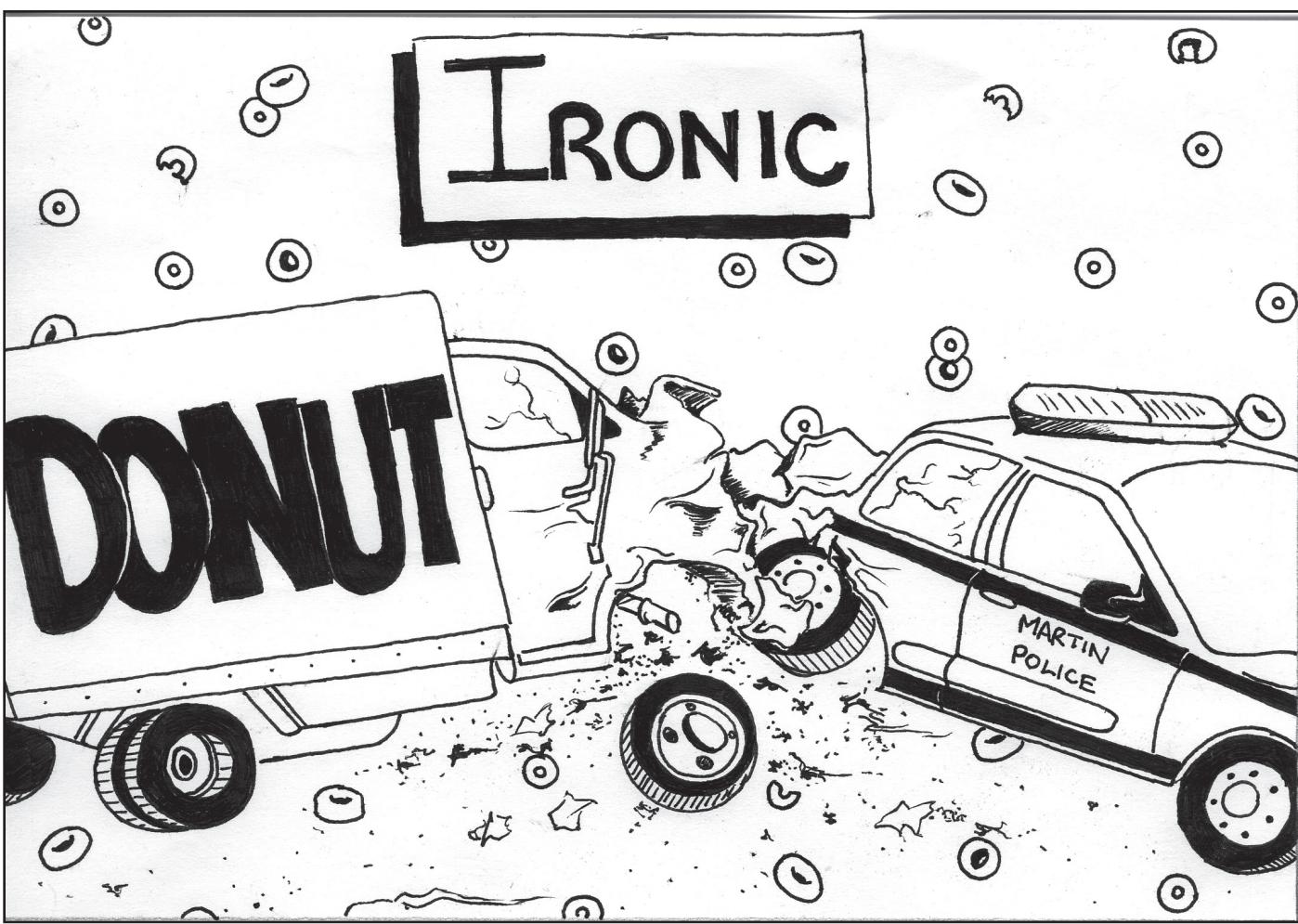
that could happen is for the "big one" to hit, and no one has a clue what to do.

However, a few questions need to be addressed. UTM is the emergency shelter should any natural disaster hits. What will local residents do if a horrendous natural disaster hits while school is in session?

UTM housing is already filled to the brim during the semesters. Where would we house local residents who come to UTM seeking shelter? Do UTM and the cafeteria have enough food to feed everyone? What will UTM and Martin do if the disaster was to shut down everything for a few weeks?

People like to say that there's no need to prepare for disasters such as this because it won't happen while they're alive. Ask the people in New Orleans who were affected by Hurricane Katrina if they wished they and the city had been more prepared.

It could happen tomorrow. It could happen a hundred years from now. But it's only a matter of when it will happen, not if. We hope that UTM and Martin will be prepared.



Letters to the Editor

Service animals helpful

I am writing on the subject of service animals and their place in society today.

How many people here in America are disabled and how many of those people can or could benefit from a service animal?

The real number is not known because of the federal privacy act. From what I have read from different sources up to 32 percent of disabled people could benefit from a service animal.

Now, what is a service animal? Most of us think first of a guide dog for the vision impaired, this is the most common. Next we have the hearing dog for the hearing impaired. Then the service animal for people with physical and psychological disorders.

These service animal is trained to assist the disabled person in a variety of different tasks. These tasks include every thing from pulling wheelchairs, picking up objects, carrying objects (in a backpack), pulling a cart for school books, providing assistance to people with mobility impairments for balance and raising from different positions.

The use of a service animal in psychological disorders is a relatively new area that is still being explored. From what I have read persons with anxiety / panic, depressive and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorders have benefited greatly with the use of these animals. These service animals have provide a

way for disabled people to socially interact with other people by allowing them to put aside there fear of the unknown and become more independent.

With this new independence, the disabled can participate in a variety of different life opportunities.

Some of these opportunities are, participating with a rehabilitation program, attending college or university, becoming employed and being able to enjoy many other places that were once restricted or inaccessible to the disabled with out a service animal.

There are federal and state laws that protect the disabled person and the service animal.

The first federal law is the Americans with Disability Act. The second is the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (section 504).

Both of these acts provide for access for the disabled and their service animal in many different places. Some places are restaurants, theater, retail stores, schools, colleges and universities ect.

If you would like more information on this you can contact the United States Department of Justice ADA hotline at 1-800-514-0301 and for postsecondary education the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights at 1-800-421-3481.

Andrew Michleski
Kenton

Angst about marriage



Sara
McIntosh
Asst. News
Editor

to be considered an equal on all fronts of the decision I have made to associate myself as well as be limited to one particular man throughout my life. Marriage does not allow me this option, so where can heterosexuals go to get a union that is not sponsored by religion, dictated by politicians and believed to be a sacred and holy sacrament?

Marriage infers religious teachings and institutions as old as the Bible itself. I have no qualms with that; however, I don't like the extremists who believe that I must be subservient to my husband as dictated by some religious teachings.

I want nothing more than

to be considered an equal on all fronts of the decision I have made to associate myself as well as be limited to one particular man throughout my life. Marriage does not allow me this option, so where can heterosexuals go to get a union that is not sponsored by religion, dictated by politicians and believed to be a sacred and holy sacrament?

Would civil unions be acceptable for people who decide that the religiously sanctioned term of "marriage" not be considered a constitutional right? I am all for the rights of all people but I do not feel that my wants and aspirations should be compromised.

THE PACER

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Opinions expressed in personal columns are those of the writers and may not reflect the opinions of the staff as a whole. Editorials are written by members of the Editorial Board, with contributions from other students, campus administrators or community members on an as-issue basis.

The Pacer invites student organizations to submit press releases at least two weeks ahead of an event. We cannot guarantee the publication of any submitted letter, release or news story.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Story ideas or news tips may be e-mailed to pacer@utm.edu or presented at our weekly staff meetings, held at 5:15 p.m. every Tuesday during the semester. If you are unable to attend these meetings, please contact the Executive Editor to arrange a separate meeting.

The Pacer welcomes comments, criticisms or ideas that its readership may have. We encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor at 314 Gooch Hall, Martin, TN 38238, through e-mail at pacer@utm.edu or via our Web site at <http://pacer.utm.edu/write/>. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words. Letters must be signed and contain the name, major and hometown of the author, as well as contact information. All submissions will be edited for grammar, spelling and brevity. Publication preference will be given to letters of less than 250 words. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Columns or Guest Commentaries should be no longer than 750 words and will require a photo of the author. Publication is based on relevance and quality of the issue and publication is subject to the discretion of the Editorial Board.

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

This newspaper is printed every Tuesday during the semester. Our press run ranges from 3,000 to 6,000 copies depending on the edition. The University of Tennessee at Martin earmarks \$3.60 per enrolled student to pay for staff salaries and overhead costs of running our office. The cost of printing the newspaper is covered by advertising revenue.

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will strike.

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For more information, go to:
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DELBERT McCLINTON

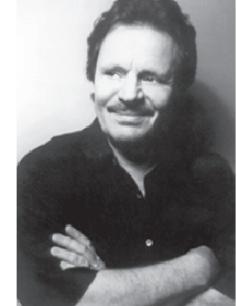


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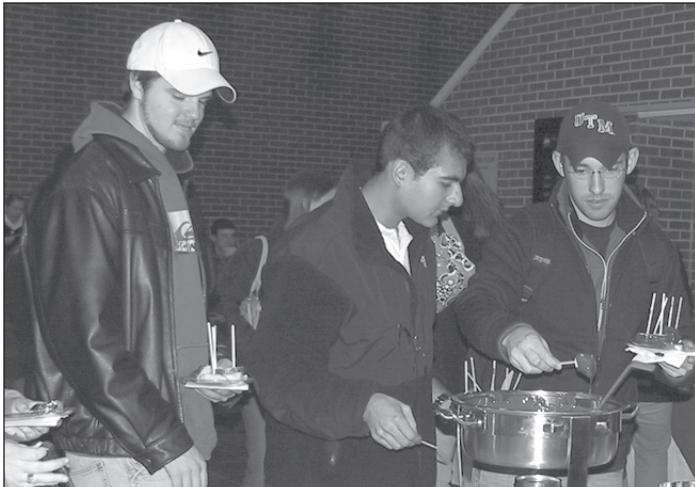
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UTM students come together in the name of chocolate



Lamar Stenson
Staff Writer

Many students gathered this previous week to celebrate the ardent day called St. Valentine's Day, knowing that diamonds, roses and stuffed bears with big hearts in the middle of them are all associated with the St. Valentine's celebration. But sometimes, it seems as if most college students cannot afford to buy such extravagant gifts as these for their loved ones.

However, chocolate is cheap, and what would Valentine's Day be without the big boxes of fine chocolates and candies?

Thanks to the efforts of SAC, Sodexho Catering, and a one-dollar donation, many students had the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of that great delicacy that is associated with Valentine's.

Brittany McGruder, an International Business major, says that "the Chocolate Fest is good for everyone and rather than sitting around, what better way to meet new people and also enjoy great chocolate desserts?"

Students, both single and attached, packed the lobby of the UC to enjoy the many varieties of chocolate that were displayed before them. The evening was filled with a communal delight as the students stood around drinking sparkling grape juice, eating the many varieties of chocolates, and filling the lobby of the UC with the joyous sounds of students bonding over the sweetness of the desserts.

For many students this was their first time coming to the Chocolate Fest.

Erin Smith, a Communications major, said, "I was invited to come to the Chocolate Fest by a friend who has previously attended," adding that this will not be her last time for attending the fest.

This event was more than about eating chocolate; it was a way students could come together, develop new friendships and strengthen old friendships.

According to SAC Executive Chair Amber Niblock, "This year was a success because there were many students that came out, and this is the vision of the Student Activities Council for each event SAC coordinates, which are designed to bring the students of UTM into a closer relationship and to help get students involved on the campus."

In addition, this event was a way to help raise money to support Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis.



Quake: Continued from Cover

for a large earthquake now because scientists cannot predict when the next big quake will occur.

"There are no guarantees that an earthquake will happen in this pattern," Horton said. "It's random."

Horton said a 7 to 10 percent chance exists that an earthquake of a 7.5 to 8.0 magnitude could occur within the next 50 years, and a 25-40 percent chance exists that an earthquake of a 6.0 or greater magnitude could occur.

"We really don't know why earthquakes happen," said Horton. "It's best to be prepared for it [a large earthquake]."

Martin Police Chief David Moore said that various designated emergency shelters are available in Weakley County should an

earthquake occur. UTM is one of these shelters. Local officials are checking to see if they have an adequate number of shelters, and are making alternative plans in case any of these buildings are substantially damaged, Moore said.

"Each scenario has to be potentially planned," he said.

Moore said that Martin is not prepared for a massive earthquake at this point, but that local officials are "working in that direction".

A full-scale disaster drill simulating a 7.7 magnitude earthquake is planned for five locations in West Tennessee on June 20 — UTM is one of them. The drill is in the planning stages with the Tennessee Emergency Management

Agency and local authorities right now. Moore said Martin and Weakley County officials are looking forward to learning how they can better prepare emergency services so that they can better serve residents when the next "big one" hits.

Obion County currently has no designated shelter areas in the event of an

earthquake; however, county Emergency Management Agency Director Mike George said that the local American Red Cross can initiate shelters.

Horton recommended that all residents be able to take care of themselves for a minimum of 10 days. This means having at least a gallon of water per person, as well as having a supply of

any medications you may need.

Obion County officials said that it could take longer than 10 days for help from the state to come to Obion and Weakley counties and nearby areas. George said that the state's priority is going to be Memphis; therefore, it could be more than 10 days before state help arrives in Northwest

Tennessee. He added that more community involvement is needed in planning, and that Obion County needs people who know how to get things done because, he said, "we'll be on our own."

Moore said that "communication is key" in these types of emergency situations.

Teachers: Continued from Cover

the shortage of math and science teachers, participants in the program must have a Bachelor's degree in math, science, engineering or nursing.

Participants in Transition to Teaching take 18 hours of graduate-level education courses during the summer, offered online through UTM's Department of Education. All participants are given a \$5,000 stipend to help defer the costs. Participants agree at the beginning of the program to teach for three years in a school district that is in need of math and science teachers. The Transition to Teaching Participants — similar to the Teach Tennessee fellows — are provided with a mentor during the first two years of teaching.

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences and Interim Chair of the Department of Education, is the UTM contact for the Transition to Teaching program. She said in an e-mail that UTM has played a large role in the alternative methods to obtain a license.

"UTM, as a member of the Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, was involved in the mentoring piece for

Teach Tennessee during the 2005-2006 academic year. We assisted with recruiting, training and monitoring retired teachers and principals hired to work with Teach Tennessee fellows. We have recently secured the Transition to Teaching grant and will be accepting applications until April of this year for the program. We will also offer the fifteen to eighteen hours needed for the candidates to complete requirements for licensure."

Hall also said that she did not feel the alternate methods detracted from the department's goal of equipping future educators to teach with the traditional method.

"Math and science majors sometimes are offered other better paying opportunities for employment. I heard a statistic the other day that is frightening in light of the push for four years of math and science in high schools: the State of Tennessee licensed [only] 11 physics teachers last year."

Hall, and many educators like her, hope that the alternative options for getting a teaching license will prevent those statistics from becoming the norm.

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Mu Epsilon Delta's bone marrow screening success

Lucas DuRall
Staff Writer

The second annual bone marrow screening was held on campus and turned out to be a great success.

The UTM medical fraternity, Mu Epsilon Delta, was a co-sponsor along with the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP).

There were approximately 75 pledges, which means there were 75 people that said they would donate their bone marrow when they are called on to do so.

A bone marrow screening isn't your typical drive where people donate. A person pledges when there is a time where their particular marrow is needed; then, they will go and donate.

The volunteers each had a swab of their inner cheek to see what kind of cell type they are. In the future, when there is a patient out

there that is in need of a marrow transplant and match the volunteer's cell type, they will be contacted and asked to come to the hospital and donate.

Such patients that are in need of these transplants are people with cancer or who are going through chemotherapy. Another disease that warrants donation is aplastic anemia.

Currently, there is a UTM student battling aplastic anemia, and, according to NMDP's Web site there is a 30% chance for a match to be found within his family. On this campus someone could be carrying his cell match and high turn-out is needed to increase the odds for finding a match.

There is a student on campus that has aplastic anemia. He was our inspiration on having this drive for he is just one of the very many in America

that has this fatal disease and need the services that we provide," said Charles Mitchell, president of Mu Epsilon Delta.

"This is the second time to work with the NMDP and it has been a pleasure both times. This year was more successful than last and we hope next year will be even better," said Mitchell.

In Tennessee, donation clinics are located in Memphis, Knoxville and Johnson City.

NMDP was created in 1986 and is currently helping 200 people receive bone marrow transplants. There are approximately 27,000 volunteers each month and 5 million in all.

For more information contact Mitchell by phone at 931-349-9293.

Allie T. Thomas contributed to this report.

Aguirre presentation on Thursday

Staff Reports

Dr. Aguirre has had a distinguished career as an academic, professor, investigator and director of Phytosanitary regulations for trade between the U.S. and Mexico. He earned his Ph. D. from Texas A&M University in 1978.

From 2002 to this past November, he served as the rector of his university. La Narro is the leading agrarian university in Mexico.

In the late 1990s, Dr. Aguirre held several important posts related to international trade for the administration of President Ernesto Zedillo. He served as director of Phytosanitary regulation and as general director of Sanitation for plants and produce. These positions have given Dr. Aguirre a unique perspective on the manner in which NAFTA is applied to trade between Mexico and the U.S.

On March 31, 2006, Chan-

cellor Nick Dunagan visited Saltillo and, with Dr. Aguirre, signed an agreement of cooperation between UTM and La Narro for student and faculty exchange, as well as for research collaboration. La Narro and our university are already enjoying the benefits of this agreement.

Please plan on attending the presentation by Dr. Aguirre at 3 p.m. on Thursday in UC 111.

On March 31, 2006, Chan-

Want to write for *The Pacer*?

Meetings are held at 5:15 p.m. every Tuesday in Gooch 316. Everyone is encouraged to attend!

Only 5 more issues until Senior Communications

Portfolios are due!

Lemons to speak at Faculty Women's Club

Staff Reports

The UTM Faculty Women's Club will host a luncheon at 11:30 a.m., March 5, in Room 206 of the UC, in observance of Women's History Month.

Dr. Mary Lemons, UTM professor of management, will be the guest speaker at 12:15 p.m.

Her topic is "Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Lessons From a Management Pioneer."

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from board members, at the UC information desk and at the Apple Barrel in Martin. For free child care, call Annie Schommer at 588-0794 by March 1.

Lemons' presentation will examine the background

and career of a woman pioneer in management, Lillian Gilbreth (1878-1972), and relate her challenges in achieving recognition in the "man's world" of the early 20th century to the problems of women today.

Gilbreth was an author, the recipient of many honorary degrees and the mother of 12. She is perhaps best remembered for motherhood. Her children wrote the popular books, "Cheaper by the Dozen" and "Belles on Their Toes" about their experiences growing up with such a large and famous family. But, Lillian Moller Gilbreth was not only a mother; she was an engineer and an industrial psychologist.

Following a brief sum-



Lemons

mary of background literature on the glass ceiling, Lemons will review the early life of Gilbreth, her educational opportunities, accomplishments and her significant achievements in a male-dominated field. Then, she will examine the relationship of Gilbreth's experiences to the challenges of women who are attempting to break the glass ceiling today.

Police Report

The information contained in this report is taken directly from public records distributed by the UTM Department of Public Safety. DPS can be contacted by calling (731) 881-7777.

11:35 a.m., February 12
University St.

Mr. Charles C. Dyer was issued a citation for registration violation. City Court.

10:03 a.m., February 13
University St.

Mr. Lucas G. DuRall was issued a citation for speeding and registration violation.

2:11 p.m., February 13
Lot 10

Subject reported damage to their vehicle. Investigation continues.

3:59 p.m., February 13
Lot 1

Subject reported damage to their vehicle. Investigation continues.

3:01 p.m., February 14
Central St.

Traffic accident involving two vehicles.

9:01 p.m., February 15
University Courts

Ms. Michelle L. Stepp was served a

warrant from the Weakley County Sheriff's Office. General Sessions Court.

7:40 a.m., February 16
Wayne Fisher Dr.

Traffic accident involving two vehicles.

9:11 a.m., February 16
Gooch

Report of a disturbance in one of the classrooms and subject was referred to Student Affairs.

10:25 a.m., February 17
Ellington

Student transported to the hospital complaining of stomach pains.

2:00 p.m., February 17
University Courts

Subject reported theft of some personal property. Investigation continues.

10:31 p.m., February 18
Ellington

Student requested transport to the hospital.

Campus Bulletin Board

The Pacer provides this space free of charge to campus clubs and organizations that wish to promote events or offerings. Items to appear in The Pacer's "Campus Bulletin Board" section must be submitted at least a week ahead of the event, either by e-mail to pacer_news@utm.edu or by dropping off a flier and press release to 314 Gooch Hall. Preference is given by event date closest to printing and by order received. Please note that submission does not necessarily guarantee printing. Call (731) 881-7780 for more information.

Pacer Meetings

Want to write for the student newspaper? *Pacer* meetings are every Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. in Gooch 316. Come sign up for a story so that you can see your byline in next week's issue of the student newspaper.

Open Forum Bible Study

The Spring Forum is exploring this semester's topic: The Gospel of Salvation & The Power of Christ. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. every Thursday in UC 209. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings.

BeanSwitch

BeanSwitch meetings are held every Thursday at 5:15 p.m. in HU 209 (writing center). All are welcome to attend.

Join Psi Chi

If you are a psychology major or minor with an overall GPA of 3.0 and a psychology GPA of 3.2, then consider joining. As long as you have had 9 hours of psychology classes and you are cur-

rently enrolled in a psychology class, then you are in! Pick up an application in the psychology dept. at the end of the hall on the third floor.

Upcoming Campus Interviews

Shelby County Schools, Feb. 28. Positions: K-12 Teachers, Special Education, Counselors. Degree: Education (Teacher Certification Eligible). Locations Available: Suburban Memphis (Collierville, Germantown, Arlington, Millington).

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Employment Information Services, 215 UC.

Campus Wide Career Day

There will be a campus wide career day on Thursday, March 1, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the UC. There will be information on careers available. You will be able to meet employers face-to-face, ask questions about careers, internships, summer jobs and full-time positions. There is something for everyone. Career Day is sponsored by UTM Employment Information Services.

Introduction to Acting

This class is meant to help you discover the actor within everyone. Learn to channel your emotional states, past experiences and present-day knowledge into the creative, sometimes-exciting and often therapeutic art of acting. This class will deal with more complex ways of developing acting skills and learning to develop new ones. This class takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays on Feb. 8-March 20 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. The costs is \$45. Christian Ashlar is the instructor. Ashlar is a UTM student with 15 years of acting experience, including seven Vanguard productions and "Shakespeare in the Park."

Sigma Tau Delta Meeting

Sigma Tau Delta will have a meeting today at 4 p.m. in the English Lounge.

Deal or No Deal

Come play "Deal or No Deal" with your Student Activities Council immediately after the

line dance in the Field House on February 21. There will be cash prizes, door prizes and more. Win up to \$500.

SDA Meeting

There will be a SDA meeting at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21 in the MRA room for all SDA members and any prospective members.

VAS Meeting

Calling all artists and random people who want to join. the Visual Art Society is having a meeting to recruit new members on February 24 in Gooch 121. Free pizza, bring your own drink.

Greek Fest Schedule of Events

Tuesday-Mr. Greek at 7 p.m. in the Student Life Center Wednesday-Line Dance at 7 p.m. in the Skyhawk Fieldhouse. Cost \$1 at the door. Followed by SAC's "Deal or No Deal." Thursday-Lip Sync at 7 p.m. in the Skyhawk Fieldhouse and 909 Comedian Mike Super in Watkins Auditorium.

Friday-NPHC Stepshow at 7 p.m. in the Skyhawk Fieldhouse. Cost \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are \$8 at the UC Info Desk.

Saturday-IFC/NPC Stepshow at 9 p.m. in the Skyhawk Fieldhouse. Cost \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are \$8 at the UC Info Desk.

Sunday-Greek Awards Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Life Center.

For more information, contact the Office of Greek Life at 881-7527.

Attention All Shotgun Shooters

For all who like to shoot for fun or shoot competitively, there will be a meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26. It will be held in UC 231. Please come, and feel free to bring your friends. Contact Seth Paugh via e-mail at setapaug@utm.edu, if you are interested in attending the meeting.

Got an item for Bulletin Board? E-mail it to pacer_news@utm.edu.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

utmpacer.com

Rachel Rogers, A&E Editor • E-mail: pacer_features@utm.edu

UTM student at the heart of 'American Heartbeat'

Jason Bohanan
Staff Writer

UTM sophomore Casey McCasland's radio personality has developed a following from fans all over the world.

McCasland, known as "DJ Cobra" to the radio world, operates an Internet-based radio station from his University Village apartment. Using a personal computer and an USB microphone, the Savannah, Tenn., native broadcasts "The American Heartbeat" from his room, which is filled with special lighting and 1980s memorabilia.

The United States aside, the station is most popular in Germany and the United Kingdom, with listeners also tuning in from locales such as China and the Cayman Islands.

"This thing is broadcast all around the earth, but I only take calls from the U.S.," McCasland says.

According to McCasland, "The American Heartbeat" is currently ranked about twentieth in a genre of 235.

McCasland began broadcasting online about one and a half years ago to support American troops overseas.

"They [troops] would send in e-mails and I would give them shout outs to let the families know they're OK," he says.

Although it has retained its patriotic flavor, the station now focuses on music from the 1980s.

"I play the music that I like and people just respond. There's a good market for this kind of music," McCasland says.

"It's a good thing for faculty, staff or whoever. It's the kind of music you can listen to in your dorm room."

McCasland has also recorded concerts of bands such as Kiss, the Scorpions and Whitesnake to broadcast on his station.

"You would be amazed at the artists I get to know by playing their music. Even Steven Tyler from Aerosmith sent me an e-mail," he says.



JASON BOHANAN/ The Pacer

UTM student Casey McCasland broadcasts his Internet radio station from his apartment.

McCasland pays \$30 per month to use the Studio 365 Live 2.4 software that broadcasts the station and its accompanying studio show, which runs from 6-10 p.m. each Tuesday.

The show features special guests such as local residents and celebrities, who often send their comments to McCasland via a MP3 file.

"They have insights on current events. [They are people] who are actually educated about events," McCasland says.

Although the digital equipment saves time, McCasland concedes his hobby can be demanding.

"It can be difficult at times, especially when you're running late. It's not as easy as people think it is," he says.

"When you start getting down in the dirty stuff, that's when it takes, like, six hours."

Despite the fans and following of McCasland's radio personality, he's not certain his roommates are aware of his hobby.

"I think they get kind of suspicious because they knock on the door and ask if I'm all right," he says.

A new way of looking at life, as told by Ishmael

David Hampton
Editorial Assistant

Throughout history, people have lived to fulfill the stories they were taught to fulfill by their culture, and we, as a culture, are no exception. This is one of the many points expounded on in the novel *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn.

Quinn offers an in-depth analysis of "how things came to be this way" via discussions portrayed in lucid and concise prose. These discussions, between the unnamed narrator and Ishmael, the teacher, trace the history of our planet, our civilization and our culture from prehistory to the present, leading the reader to a subtle understanding of our current place in history, and of the urgent need for change.

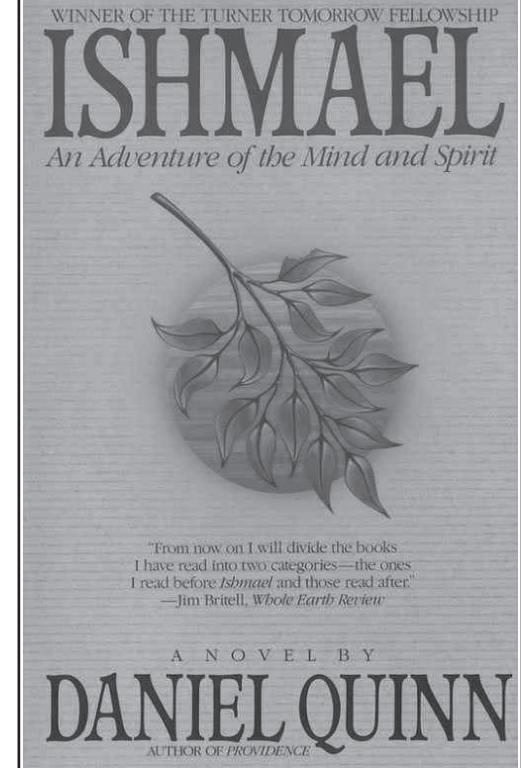
"There's nothing fundamentally wrong with people," Ishmael tells us. "Given a story to enact that puts them in accord with the world, they will live in accord with the world... And given a story to enact in which the world is a foe to be conquered, they will conquer it like a foe, and one day, inevitably, their foe will lie bleeding to death at their feet, as the world is now."

Ishmael, in his teachings, divides human cultures into two basic categories: Takers and Leavers. We (and almost everyone else on the planet) are Takers, meaning that we unconsciously adhere to the belief that the planet was made solely for humans.

The Leavers, on the other hand, are those few small societies, now geographically isolated in far-flung corners of the world, which do not act in accordance to the Taker worldview.

Through the teachings of Ishmael, Quinn succinctly lays bare such examinations of human history and culture, leading the reader on a personal journey to discover their own place in the world and the ways in which their own culture has secretly shaped their view of the world and the role of the human species in it.

Ishmael is a novel that has the ability to change how the reader sees the world. I



Daniel Quinn's *Ishmael* is an award-winning book that will more than likely change the way you think.

strongly recommend it, and the majority of those I've shared it with have found it very interesting and couldn't wait to talk about it after they finished reading.

In 1991, *Ishmael* won the Turner Tomorrow Fellowship, an award created by Ted Turner, for "offering creative solutions to global problems." It is also credited as inspiring the film *Instinct* (1999), starring Anthony Hopkins and Cuba Gooding, Jr. Renowned rock band Pearl Jam said that *Ishmael* could serve as the liner notes for their 1998 album, *Yield*.

Find out more about *Ishmael* and Daniel Quinn at www.readishmael.com

Sixteen Minutes: Part V



Stephen Outten
www.StephenOutten.com

Anna had believed she'd be seeing James shortly after his near-arrest. Unfortunately for Anna, she was right about her intuition – she had very little, if any at all.

Her days blended together as summer morphed into autumn. Filing cases and answering phones and watching as her former classmates progressively packed and left for college comprised her waking life; when she slept, her dreams comprised the rest.

In fact, Anna's latest dreams centered on an advertisement she had recently seen on TV. Chic Models was sponsoring a national talent search; for \$25, two Polaroid shots, and access to the Internet, any woman between the ages of 14 and 22 could put their pretty heads on the proverbial chopping block, all from the anonymity of her bedroom. After a depressing evening spent with classic movies, Anna figured she had nothing to lose. A few clicks, two picture uploads, a confirmation email – Anna Monroe was an official entrant.

The next morning, she wished that there were a refund policy. Surely some pageant queen would win; what chance did a girl like Anna have? She deleted the email and forgot about it. In a few weeks, the rest of Myron's college hopefuls would be gone, leaving Anna to staple and fax papers dealing with unemployment check disputes.

By lunch, Anna wanted to go home. The morning had been particularly busy, and for most of it she had been manning the ship alone. Her mother had finally come back a few minutes ago, leaving Anna free to take a break. A break wasn't in the plan, though. Police car lights flooded the park-

ing lot again.

There was only one officer this time. He walked in and said, "Is Anna Monroe here?"

"She's in the office," her mother said. "What's the matter?"

"Let me speak to her please."

Anna knew she had thrown out the rest of her stash. What could this possibly be about?

The door opened. "Ms. Monroe, will you come with me please?"

"What's this about?"

"We need you for questioning about the boy who was arrested here a few weeks ago."

"Oh, he wasn't arrested," Anna said, hoping to avoid going "downtown."

"Just come with me please."

Anna followed him out and got into the car. He turned the sirens back on and peeled out of the parking lot, kicking up a cloud of dust. "Are the sirens necessary?" she asked the officer.

He remained silent.

After a few minutes, Anna realized that they weren't going towards town. Her stomach began churning. What was going on?

The paved road turned into a dirt road as they drove further out into the country. Up ahead, a grove of trees thrived in the midst of an expansive field. The police officer drove right up to the edge and hit the brakes. "Here you go, ma'am."

"I'm supposed to get out here?"

The officer nodded.

She hesitated.

"Ma'am," the officer reiterated.

Confused, Anna slowly got out of the car. As soon as she shut the door, the car pulled around and left her there.

Stranded and alone, Anna started walking back towards the road.

"You're going the wrong way," a deep voice behind her said.

Anna jumped around, and her heart leapt.

It was James, holding a picnic basket and a blanket. "I thought we might be seeing each other again," he said smiling.

UT Martin GREEKFEST 2007

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19
JAIL-N-BAIL AT 11:00 A.M. IN THE STUDENT LIFE CENTER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
XΩ'S MR. GREEK AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE STUDENT LIFE CENTER

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
LINE DANCE AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE SKYHAWK FIELDHOUSE
COST: \$1 AT THE DOOR
FOLLOWED BY SAC'S DEAL OR NO DEAL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22
LIP SYNC AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE SKYHAWK FIELDHOUSE
COST \$2 AT THE DOOR

909 COMEDIAN MIKE SUPER (MAGICIAN) AT 9:00 P.M. IN THE WATKINS AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23
NPHC STEPSHOW AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE SKYHAWK FIELDHOUSE
COST: \$10 AT THE DOOR. ADVANCE TICKETS ARE \$8 AT THE UC INFO DESK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24
IFC/NPC STEPSHOW AT 9:00 P.M. IN THE SKYHAWK FIELDHOUSE
COST: \$10 AT THE DOOR. ADVANCE TICKETS ARE \$8 AT THE UC INFO DESK

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25
GREEK AWARDS CEREMONY AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE STUDENT LIFE CENTER

For more information, contact the Office of Greeklife at 881-7527

Don't like what you see in the A&E section?

Then do something about it!

Send stories and ideas to pacer_features@utm.edu

the TECHNOPHILE

pacer.utm.edu/tech

Matt Cook, Technical Editor • E-mail: pacer_tech@utm.edu

Connecting UTM
to the
connected world.

From the Geek Corner

Cell phones change the world one signal at a time



Matt Cook
Technical
Editor

Isn't the cell phone a great invention? For the very few of you who still don't have one, hear me out: cell phones, despite the constant distraction they provide, are simply astounding devices.

I find it amazing that any cell phone ranging from my old Nokia from the '90s to the most modern BlackBerry or Motorola Q has more processing power than the original personal computers.

I also find it exciting that lesser developed nations are skipping the landline phone system entirely and are moving straight to cell phones. Technology advances are the leading front of globalization.

Cell phones help us stay in contact with loved ones, be they across the world in Thailand or somewhere in the theme park. Cell phones – let's face it – help us tell our friends that we got out of class early or that we'll meet them at the University Center for lunch.

Cell phones even help in emergency situations, taking priority over other calls on a cell tower when 911 is dialed.

Thank you, Bell Labs,

I find it amazing that my old Nokia from the '90s has more processing power than the original personal computer.

are released in foreign countries before they hit the American market. Some never make it at all. Sure, one can pay around \$300 to have the phone "unlocked" so it can be used on an American mobile company's network, but who has the time and money for that? I personally wish phone companies wouldn't work so hard on targeting specific country-phone match ups that are most profitable but would let anybody buy the phone they want without switching countries.

Web site of the week

**www. flash .net
.html
.com**

Jay Baker
Assist. News Editor

This week's Web site of the week is Meebo.com, a sweet little Web 2.0 gem that lets you sign in and use multiple instant messenger services simultaneously and without installing any software.

You start off by creating a free account with Meebo, allowing you to sign in to all of your IM services with only one login and password. Meebo supports MSN, AIM, Yahoo!, ICQ, Google Talk and Jabber.

Once you are logged in, Meebo's clean design makes it easy to move between your multiple buddy lists and chat screens, all of which can be popped out into full windows if you're not using Firefox and are unable to give Meebo its own tab. Another notable feature, which is often overlooked by application based IM's, is the obviously placed mute button. There's nothing worse than an anti-climatic MIDI trumpet blast in the middle of class.

Meebo also has a customizable widget genera-

tor, which generates code for you to cut and paste onto your MySpace profile, blog or Web site so visitors can chat with you.

Meebo's best feature is that it doesn't require a software download. This means that you won't have to install five different memory hogging programs (or one if you use Trillian) to IM your friends who have all chosen different IM programs.

It's also great for work or classroom computers where you may not be allowed or able to install software (especially the ones in computer labs which wipe their hard drives every night, removing any programs you might have installed).

This "Ajax Trillian," will be a great help for those who rely on instant messaging for their communications. For those who aren't too concerned with instant messaging, this site probably will continue to go under the radar. But if you are not sure whether to jump on the IM band wagon, now is your chance. It's never been easier.



UTM Web site to receive facelift

Thomas Fulcher
Staff Writer

The UTM Web site will be getting a facelift soon. The Web site change comes as part of a new branding campaign which is being implemented by the entire UT system.

The new Web site will include a revised logo which features new colors for the university; a UT orange and navy blue make up the redesigned logo. The Web site will utilize a wide-format screen and contain higher resolutions than the current one.

Prospective and current

MotoRIZR Z3 could replace popular RAZR

Elizabeth Watts
Executive Editor

The Rizr Z3 is a part of the Motorola cell phone family, and it is the first sliding cell phone of the series. The Motorola Rizr is available through T-Mobile.

The Rizr comes with a two-megabite camera, 20 MB of internal memory and supports a MicroSD card of up to 2 GB.

Motorola's Web site called the Z3 "appealing to the senses ... this sleek new device boasts exceptional imaging, vivid color screen, enhanced music features and global connectivity."

The Rizr also has a built-in music player, and users can transfer songs to the Rizr using USB connectivity.

The battery life is 200 minutes while a person talks and 225 hours on standby.

The prices for the Motorola Rizr range from \$300 to \$500, depending on the store and shipping.

The Rizr has already been released in Western Europe and is slated to be released in America this spring.



Photo courtesy of Motorola.com

students are expected to be able to enjoy more features like video and audio. The new Web site template will still be just as easy to navigate as the current site – it will just have a few upgrades.

As always, UTM students and their quotes will continue to be featured on the homepage along with easy access to e-mail and searches, which almost all students find accommodating.

A date for the implementation of the new Web site has not been set yet. The template is currently undergoing some refinements to make it work for

UTM.

"The new design template will be reviewed by the chancellor's staff in March," said Shannon Burgin, chief information officer of Information Technology Services.

"Then a date for implementation will be determined."

The new Web site marks the launching of a transition to the UT logo which will be used by all of the Universities of Tennessee. The new colors and logo will be appearing all over campus in everything from athletic uniforms to business cards.

Although there has not

been an exact timeline established, the campus can expect to see more and more changes within the next year. The Web site is only the beginning.

When commenting on the changes to come, Bud Grimes, director of office of University Affairs, summed up the new logo nicely by saying, "From signage to apparel to business cards: a cleaner, more distinct image will emerge that will represent this campus well and identify it more closely as an important part of the University of Tennessee System."



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Sports

The Pacer • February 20, 2007

Brad Hurt

Sports Editor

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On the Web

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utmpacer.com

Page 7

Nursing, faith motivate new Skyhawk softball recordholder

Brad Hurt
Sports Editor

Although most Skyhawk softball fans have come to know sophomore pitcher Ashley Myatt for her accomplishments on the field, she hopes to have an effect on others in more important ways.

Besides being a talented softball player, Myatt, who tied a school record by striking out 13 Mississippi Valley State batters during a 9-4 Skyhawk victory on Feb. 10, is also a Christian and a nursing major.

"I am pretty excited to know my name will go in the record books; however, individual records are not that important to me. I would rather set records as a team and win as many games as possible regardless of how many records are set," she says.

During her record-setting performance Myatt tried not to focus on the possibility of joining the list of significant names in Skyhawk history but admits that it was difficult not to allow such thoughts to enter her mind.

"I knew that I had more strikeouts than in any game last year, so I was pretty excited about that. I tried not to think about it too much though because it always seems to come back and get me if I do. Even though I knew I had several strike outs, I had no idea it would end up being 13," she says.

The Dickson native says she owes her strong faith and religious background to her parents, who have been her role models throughout her life.

"My parents are two of the strongest people I know. My mother is such a servant and is always helping others," she says.

Myatt's strong beliefs encourage her to be the best person she can be in every circumstance, whether it be on the field of play or on the UTM campus. Her dedication to God prompts her to do her best to be an example to others around her.

"As a Christian I strive daily to be more like Christ. I spend a daily quiet time in prayer and reading my Bible. I hope to set an example for not only my teammates, but also this campus. I want others to see Jesus in me. As for on the field, I try do my best every game and work hard at every practice because God has called us to do our very best at everything. I hope my teammates see this in me."

On the field this season, Myatt is expected to be among the team leaders after posting an impressive freshman season in 2006. In her first year of NCAA competition, Myatt finished with a 13-9 record and an ERA of 1.90. She pitched 13 complete games and struck out 101 batters while becoming one of four Skyhawks to be named to the Ohio Valley Conference All-Newcomer Team.

Myatt's success as an individual went hand in hand with the team's success as the team finished third in the OVC.

Myatt says she enjoys being a pitcher because as a pitcher she has full control of the game.

Robinson free throws give Skyhawk men thrilling victory over St. Peter's

UTM Sports Information

With 23 seconds left in the game, Skyhawk junior Gerald Robinson sank two free throws to give the host Skyhawks a 59-58 victory over Saint Peter's College Saturday night in the ESPN BracketBusters game played in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Saint Peter's had a chance to win the game but with two seconds left in the game Todd Sowell missed a shot and Will Lewis came away with the rebound for the Skyhawks.

With the win, UTM improves to 8-22 on the year and remains undefeated in the BracketBusters. A year ago the Skyhawks posted a 69-62 victory over host Evansville in the BracketBusters. The win also put an end to the Skyhawks' two-game losing streak and sets the stage for next Saturday's regular season finale against arch-rival Murray State in the Elam Center. Tipoff is set for 6 p.m.

"It's certainly nice to get a W," said Bret Campbell, the Skyhawks' head coach.

"Unfortunately we have not had a lot of them this year."

Robinson finished the game with 20 points and 10 rebounds, his third double-double of the season. The junior college transfer hit 8-of-10 from the free throw line. Senior Cleve Woodfork also posted a double-double for the Skyhawks with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Freshman Spencer Harris recorded a season-high 10 assist in the contest.

"I also love getting to know the girls and being a part of the team," she says.

Off the field, Myatt is studying to be a nurse, which she sees as another opportunity to help others and honor God. She is also excited about having the opportunity to make a living by doing something that truly interests her.

"I love learning about the human body; it is such an amazing thing. I also love to help people, and I figure what better way to help them than be a nurse. There is a huge need for nurses today, so I know I will be able to get a job when I graduate."

Upon graduating from Dickson High School, where she helped lead the team to a state championship in 2002 along with two consecutive regional championships and three straight district titles, Myatt faced a difficult college selection process. However, after a lot of thought and prayer she decided to attend UTM and join the Skyhawk athletics family.

"When I visited UTM my senior year of high school, I had no idea where I wanted to go. I thought I wanted to go to a big school, but when I came here and visited everything seemed right. It is a lot like my hometown: small and friendly. Everyone on campus was so nice and very helpful. I prayed for a long time about my decision, and I know God led me here. I am far enough away from home, but close enough to go home when I want," she says.

Once her playing days come to an end, Myatt plans to continue her education at Vanderbilt in preparation for a career as a nurse practitioner. By following a career path in the healthcare field, she will be able to continue to serve God by serving others. For now, making dazzling plays on the field will have to do.

Skyhawk softball doubleheader vs. Mid-Continent University

Wed., Feb. 21 2 p.m.

Bettye Giles Field



Matt Maxey/ UTM Sports Information

Skyhawk sophomore pitcher Ashley Myatt tied a school record by striking out 13 batters during a 9-4 victory over Mississippi Valley State on Feb. 10 as part of the season-opening Southeastern Louisiana Tournament. The Skyhawks finished the tournament with a 3-2 record thanks in part to Myatt's efforts on the mound. Although she has had success on the playing field in her time with the Skyhawks, Myatt considers her relationship with God to be the most important thing in her life.

Ashley Myatt 2007 statistics

1-1 record

5.84 ERA

16 strikeouts

Write for Pacer sports!

*Submit stories at:
pacer_sports@utm.edu*

Robinson named newcomer of week

Brad Hurt
Sports Editor

Following two impressive performances this past week in which he averaged 19 points and 8.5 rebounds per game, Skyhawk junior forward Gerald Robinson received the honor of Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week.

Robinson came up big late in the Skyhawks' 59-58 win over St. Peter's College in an ESPN BracketBusters game, which was the second such win for the Skyhawks in as many years.

With only 23 seconds remaining in the game and his team trailing by a point, Robinson connected on two free throws to give the Skyhawks the victory.

He finished the game with a total of 20 points and 10 rebounds, leading the team in both categories. The performance was Robinson's third double-double of the season.

In Thursday's 65-61 road loss to Tennessee Tech, Robinson poured in 18 points and was the only Skyhawk to score in double figures.

For the season, Robinson is averaging 13.1 points per contest.



Trevor Ruszkowski/ UTM Sports Information

Skyhawk junior forward Gerald Robinson gets a shot off between two defenders during Thursday's 65-61 loss to Tennessee Tech. Robinson scored 20 points, including the game-winning free throws, and pulled down 10 rebounds to record his third double-double of the season two nights later as the Skyhawks knocked off St. Peter's by a score of 59-58 in a Bracketbusters game. The win was UTM's second straight in the Bracketbusters series.

Newcomers show out for UTM despite rough opening weekend

Zane Gresback
Assistant Sports Editor

The UTM baseball team has opened the season playing at a Louisiana school the last three years and has yet to come away with a victory.

The 2007 version of the Louisiana swing was played at Southeastern Louisiana of the Southland Conference. The Lions dealt the Skyhawks their first three losses of the young season and outscored them in the series 32-7.

Despite the lofty scoring margin, the Skyhawks can take positives away from the opening weekend.

Head coach Bubba Cates managed to play 18 position players during the series. All 18 position players had at least one at bat, and 10 of 11 pitchers were used and worked at least one inning.

Going into the all-important OVC schedule, the Skyhawks can be confident that nearly every player has some game experience. That is a rare situation for any baseball team at this point in the season.

An area that the Skyhawks needed to address going into the 2007 season was outfield depth. Only one starter returned from last year's team. After the opening weekend, it seems the Skyhawks have found their missing outfield pieces. Newcomers Albert Destrade and Kyle Dudley combined to go 10-18 in the series. Destrade hit a lofty .571 in the series with 3 RBI. Dudley had six hits overall, hitting .545 and scored three runs. Dudley was among five players throughout the OVC considered for conference Player of the Week for his performance. The duo will continue to be counted on for offensive production as the season goes on.

A key fact not reflected by the box score at



Destrade



Dudley

the end of the game is the lack of preparation the Skyhawks had before opening the season. The spring semester thus far has had inclement weather that has forced the Skyhawks to simulate situations indoors a majority of the time.

While Southeastern Louisiana had weeks of outdoor practice as well as four games played, UTM has struggled to get in season-like rhythm. Trying to execute all facets of the game against a quality opponent (the Lions beat nationally ranked No. 16 Tulane two out of three games to start the season) without much practice is never an easy thing to do.

An optimistic attitude is what the Skyhawks will need as they welcome the Bradley Braves to town this weekend. Bradley is also winless in 2007, dropping their opening two-game series at Belmont. Bradley is led on the mound by senior Michael Christl who returns after being drafted in the 26th round by the Boston Red Sox in 2006. Christl was roughed up in his first start of the season.

In only four innings pitched, Christl gave up six runs on seven hits in a 6-1 loss to Belmont. UTM won one of three games at home against Bradley last season.

Double-header action starts on Saturday, Feb. 24, at noon. The final game of the series is on Sunday, Feb. 25, at 1 p.m.



Members of the UTM rifle team pose for a quick picture following a successful weekend at the OVC Championship hosted by Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Ala. Several members brought home medals and coach Bob Beard won the Coach of the Year Award. Jaymi Collar won a gold medal for first team smallbore; Heather Tillson won a gold medal for first team air rifle; and Robbie Burrows won a gold medal for first team smallbore, a gold medal for first team air rifle and was named to the newcomer freshman team. The women's air rifle team beat the Austin Peay and the Morehead State University women's and men's teams. The mixed smallbore team placed second overall, beating rival Murray State University. They also placed third overall in air rifle. With both air and smallbore scores combined, they placed third overall.



Beard

Equestrian team takes three wins at home

The UTM women's equestrian team defeated South Dakota State 3-1 and Delaware State 2-1 in equitation over fences this past weekend at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Pavilion.

Equitation means that individual riders are judged on their form and appearance while on course. The horse's form on the course is not judged, but points will be deducted from the rider if a horse commits a course fault or drops a pole.

The Skyhawk women also claimed a 2-1 win over Delaware State in horsemanship.

UTM lost to South Dakota State 1137.5-1120. The Skyhawks lost in the English discipline 573-561 and in the Western discipline 564.5-559.

UTM lost to Delaware State 4-3 in the hunt seat.

Despite its limited success, UTM's Kendra Leake, a junior from Whites Creek, was named the MVP for horsemanship.

UTM travels to defending national champion Auburn on Sunday, Feb. 25. Competition gets under way at 1 p.m.

Got a great idea for a sports story? Send it to The Pacer Sports crew at pacer_sports@utm.edu

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